

City of Albuquerque
Environmental Health Department
Director - 768-2600

Albuquerque / Bernalillo County Air
Quality Control Board
768-2600

Air Quality Division Manager
768-1930

Important Phone Numbers
Air Quality Index & Pollen
768-4731 opt 1 or 766-7664
Burn/No Burn 768-BURN (2876)

Ambient Air
Monitoring - 768-1969
◆ National Ambient Air Quality
Standards
◆ AQI & Seasonal Pollen

Compliance
& Field Enforcement - 768-1930
◆ Facility Inspection
◆ Topsoil Disturbance
◆ Compliance Assurance
◆ Asbestos Abatement
◆ Open Burn Permits
◆ Woodburning Exemptions

Education, Outreach & Technical
Assistance - 768-1970
◆ Pollution Prevention
◆ Emergency Preparedness
◆ Community Outreach
◆ Small Business Assistance
◆ *The Air Shed* Newsletter

Permitting & Emission Inventories -
768-1930
◆ Application Review & Permit Issuance
◆ Permitting Policy / Development
◆ Ambient Air Dispersion Modeling
◆ Emission and Pollutant Inventories
◆ Aerometric Information Retrieval
System [AIRS]

Control Strategies- 768-2600
◆ Development of Air Quality Regulations
◆ Preparation of State Implementation
Plan elements
◆ Air Quality Control Board
◆ Review Federal environmental
assessments

Public Health
Initiatives - 767-5621
◆ Air Quality Complaints
◆ Indoor Air

Quality Assurance - 768-1963
◆ EPA Reporting
◆ Review & Validation of Data

San Juan Pueblo Receives National Award

In a ceremony last November 17 in Washington, D.C., San Juan Pueblo won the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2004 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. The award recognizes San Juan's innovative approaches to development that both strengthen the pueblo's identity and simultaneously protect the environment.

In 2001, San Juan adopted a pueblo-wide Master Land Use Plan in keeping with the pueblo's long-standing commitment to community, sound environmental designs and pedestrian-friendly villages. The first of its kind, the plan is expected to serve as a model for other tribes and communities across the country.

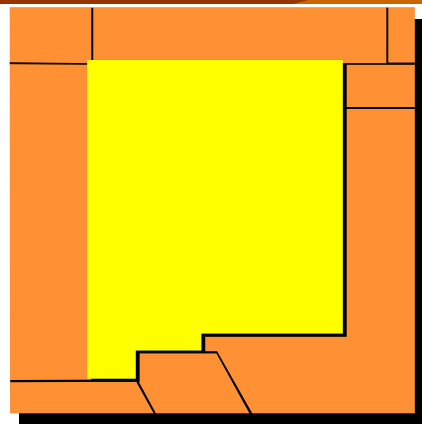
The plan includes design guidelines that preserve the architectural heritage of the pueblo while providing a long-term growth strategy, coordinating existing infrastructure with housing and commercial development and encouraging retail and commercial uses in a "main street" style.

The first project completed under the new plan is Tsigo Bugeh Village, a 40-unit residential complex that features both market-rate and affordable housing accompanied by a community center, computer and exercise rooms and laundry facilities.

The plan supports smart growth development practices by preserving open spaces and parkland, protecting critical habitat, improving transportation choices, promoting brownfield redevelopment and reducing impervious surfaces.

San Juan lies 25 miles (40 km) north of Santa Fe on U.S. 84/285 and five miles north of Española off N.M. 68. It is one of the largest Tewa-speaking pueblos with a population of 6,748 according to the Census in 2000. Today, the pueblo is the headquarters of the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council.

San Juan Pueblo has a proven record of sustainability. The pueblo was already a thriving center for New Mexico's pueblo culture when Juan de Oñate established the first Spanish capital city in New Mexico near the pueblo in 1598. The pueblo has been in existence for at least 700 years.



AIR QUALITY CONTROL BOARD REPORT

Summary of Activities* November 10, 2004 Meeting of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board

Members Present:

Dr. Betty Chang, Vice Chair
Dr. Donald Naranjo
Ms. Sue Umschler, Esq., Chair
Ms. Karen Wentworth

Hearings:

Hearing #1) Continuation of combined hearings with closing arguments regarding Environmental Health Department's Motion to Dismiss the two related Petitions for Variance that were filed by Thermogenics, Inc. Member Wentworth recused herself from the proceedings, so the hearing was continued due to a lack of a quorum.

Hearing #2) The Control Strategies Section presented a proposal to amend 20.11.63 NMAC, New Source Performance Standards for Stationary Sources, and a proposal to amend 20.11.64 NMAC, Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Stationary Sources.

Action Items:

- 1) Decision regarding Motion to Dismiss the two Petitions for Variance filed by Thermogenics, Inc. Continued
- 2) Decision regarding proposed amendments to 20.11.63 NMAC, New Source Performance Standards for Stationary Sources, and proposed amendments to 20.11.64 NMAC, Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Stationary Sources. Member Umschler moved to adopt amendments to 20.11.63 & 64 NMAC through Resolution #2004-5, seconded by Member Chang. Passed 4-0.
- 3) Appointment of an alternate Board representative to Mid Region Council of Governments (MRCOG). Member Pilon will take the lead in that capacity with other Board members to serve as back-up in Mr. Pilon's absence.

Albuquerque / Bernalillo County Air Quality Control Board

Board Members & Staff

Stephen Pilon, City
Karen Wentworth, County
Johnnye Lewis - County
Sue Umshler - County (Chair)
Betty Chang - City (Vice Chair)
Donald Naranjo - City
Vacant - City

Martin J. Chávez, Mayor
City of Albuquerque

Alfredo Santistevan, Director
Environmental Health Department

Isreal L. Tavarez
Air Quality Division Manager/
Secretary to the Board

Adelia Kearny
Assistant City Attorney

Glen Dennis
Vehicle Pollution Management Division Manager

Jens Deichmann
Environmental Planning Commission Liaison

Monthly Board Meetings

Board meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Council/Commission Chambers, lower level, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Government Center, 1 Civic Plaza, 400 Marquette Avenue NW Albuquerque, NM.

Agendas, which will show the correct date and meeting place, are generally available three days before the meeting and can be obtained by contacting Mr. Neal Butt at 505-768-2660 or via e-mail at: nbutt@cabq.gov.

Notice to persons with disabilities: If you have a disability and require special assistance to participate in any Board meeting please call the Air Quality Division at 505-768-2600 (Voice) or 505-768-2482 (TTY)

Vehicle Pollution Management Division Feature

Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program:

VPMD will host an orientation session for new Air Board members on Wednesday December 8th from 3 to 4:30 pm at the referee/retest facility located at 1500 Broadway NE. The session will focus on the new BAR97 analyzers and test protocols, inspector training and certification, and the oxygenated fuels program.

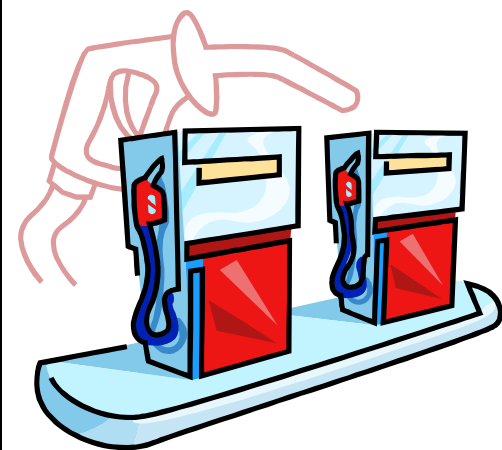
One new Air Care Station was certified by VPMD in November. CarMax, a national chain specializing in late model used cars, opened at I-25 and Alameda Blvd NE. CarMax has employees registered for the December Air Care inspector certification course and will be able to open their Air Care station as soon as they have a certified inspector.

Two BAR97 emission analyzers failed gas audits in November and were temporarily shut down by VPMD field audit staff until repaired. Dirty filters on the analyzers contributed to the audit failures and both machines were repaired in less than one hour by changing out filters and recalibrating the analyzer. VPMD field auditors will be re-emphasizing the importance of checking and changing filters as they make their monthly audit rounds. The filters cost less than \$3 but are critical for analyzer performance and longevity.

VPMD staff have issued several notices of violation in recent weeks to Air Care inspectors for testing and failing gas caps on some 70's model vehicles that do not have sealed gas vapor systems and are not required to have gas caps tested. VPMD field auditors are reminding inspectors to check the required reference manuals for applicability of the gas cap test and the issue will be featured in the next issue of the VPMD newsletter. As with any serious inspector error, motorists are being offered the option to return to the inspection station for a free retest and refund of the original test fee. Inspectors will usually only make this mistake once if they get a retest/refund sent to them by VPMD.

Air Care Inspector Training Program:

Thirteen students attended the November Air Care inspector certification course. Ten of the students successfully completed both the written and practical examinations and became certified Air Care inspectors authorized to conduct official emission testing in the program.



Oxygenated Fuels Program:

VPMD collected 40 fuel samples in November and sent them to the NM Agriculture Department's Petroleum Standards Bureau Lab for oxygenate analysis. Eleven of the forty samples were below the minimum oxygenate requirement of 2.7% oxygen by weight with a 95% confidence interval. Twenty nine of the forty would be below the 2.7% standard if a 100% confidence interval were assumed. The average oxygenate content for the 40 samples was 2.45% (not weighted by station volume which would be higher). Thus, most of the samples are at or very close to the standard but a much larger percentage than in years past are below the standard. Preliminary indications are that the problem is resulting from the distribution racks blending the minimum 7.8% ethanol by volume instead of the 8%

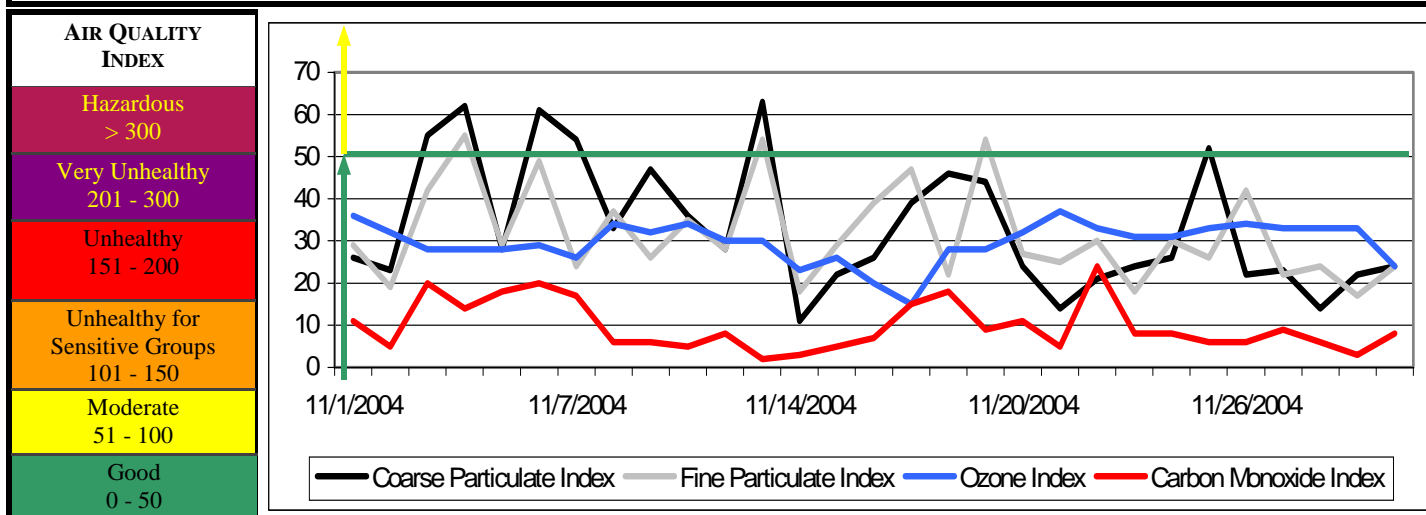
in years past which provided some margin of error for retailers. VPMD is working with the rack operators and wholesalers to correct the problem. With the current high cost of gasoline, the addition of ethanol should be cost-effective but supply may be a problem.



AIR QUALITY DATA FOR NOVEMBER, 2004

The Air Quality Index [AQI] values indicate how clean or polluted ambient air is, and if there are any health concerns associated with a specific value. The AQI in Bernalillo County is measured for four [4] nationally regulated air pollutants: Carbon Monoxide [CO], Ozone [O₃], Coarse Particulate [PM₁₀] and Fine Particulate [PM_{2.5}].

As shown by the graph below, AQI values were "Good" to "Moderate" in November, which means that air pollutants at this level pose little or no health risks to our community, but those members of our community who already have respiratory problems may be slightly affected. Thus, as the values increase into a higher category, health risks will similarly increase. As you may have guessed, the last category, "Hazardous", with AQI values greater than 300, is very serious and can be detrimental to the health of the whole community even if emergency health warnings are triggered. Call the [Air Quality Information Line](#) at 766-7664 or 768-4731 Option 1 to get today's AQI Values.



Fine Particles Present Indoors and Outdoors

In a recent study released by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, fine particulate matter (particles < 2.5 micrometers in diameter) easily migrates into our homes and vehicles.

The study shows that outdoor levels of fine particulate closely correlate with indoor levels, demonstrating that barriers like walls and windows do little to protect us from the impacts of the ubiquitous particulate pollution.

Exposure studies have also shown that background levels of other gaseous pollutants, such as ozone and nitrogen dioxide, can be surrogate indicators for personal PM_{2.5} exposure.

Studies conducted in the United States and around the world have shown that PM_{2.5} is associated with illness and premature death. Asthmatics, the very young, the genetically predisposed and the elderly are most susceptible to PM_{2.5}.

In a separate study, tests showed that people spending long periods of time in their automobiles are exposed to higher levels of particulate than someone spending an equivalent amount of time outdoors and that the resulting exposure to PM_{2.5} appeared to cause cardiovascular changes, including changes in the ability of the heart to beat in proper rhythm and changes in the blood that can lead to the formation of blood clots.



Messages from the Mayor



Mayor Martin J. Chávez

Cleaner Diesels

The City of Albuquerque and Kirtland Air Force Base have each taken important steps to preserve one of our most cherished resources, our clean air. In so doing, both Kirtland and the City have demonstrated the vision to place themselves among the leaders in the Nation's efforts to reduce emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines.

Heavy-duty diesel engines like the ones that power large trucks, busses and all types of industrial machinery have managed to largely escape the strict emissions standards that have applied to their gasoline-fueled cousins for decades. Impurities such as sulfur in diesel fuel have, until very recently, prevented the use of standard types of vehicle emissions control equipment. New federal standards for reduced-sulfur diesel fuel go into effect late in 2006 to be phased in over the following three years and new emissions standards for heavy-duty diesel on-road engines are set to phase in by 2010. These new regulations will ultimately lead to diesel engines that are 95% cleaner than those on the road today. But our community can't afford to wait that long. The City and Kirtland AFB are reducing emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines **today!**

The City's Environmental Health Department has been awarded a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that enables us to retrofit 35 of our older residential trash collection trucks with catalytic converters. Catalytic converters, components of the vehicle's exhaust system, scrub harmful emissions from the exhaust gases before they're released into the air. Trash collection trucks were chosen for this pilot project because they operate for long hours each day in our neighborhoods among sensitive members of the population like the elderly and children. The converters are especially effective at lowering emissions of particulate (20% reduction) and un-burned fuel (50 % reduction), two of the major contributors to Albuquerque's brown cloud.

The converters are even more effective if the vehicle is fueled with reduced-sulfur fuel, so part of the grant money will also pay for B-20 fuel. B-20 is a blend of 80% traditional diesel fuel mixed with 20% biodiesel. Biodiesel (mono alkyl esters) is a fuel that is primarily derived from natural, renewable sources such as vegetable oils pressed from soy beans and rape seed and, yes, even re-cycled cooking oil. B-20 fuel burns cleaner than traditional diesel fuel, so, when used with a catalytic converter, results in combined reductions of unburned fuel (60% reduction), particulate (30% reduction), and carbon monoxide (47% reduction). Solid Waste Division, operators of the trucks, will convert some of its fuel storage capacity to B-20 to support this project.

So obvious are the immediate emissions benefits from the use of B-20 fuel that the City and Kirtland AFB have converted most of their combined diesel fleets to B-20. B-20 is slightly more expensive than traditional diesel fuel (approx. \$0.11 more per gallon), so the City secured a 1% Energy Grant to offset the cost. Kirtland AFB pays for its B-20 through separate funding sources. Once the conversion to B-20 is complete, the City expects its total annual usage of B-20 to be approximately 750,000 gallons per year. This will amount to several tons of reduction of combustion emissions.

Achieving these significant emissions reductions has taken the cooperative efforts of several City departments, Kirtland AFB, private industry and the EPA working in unison for the common good. It shows the kind of forward thinking that's necessary to keep Albuquerque on the cutting edge of environmental conservation.

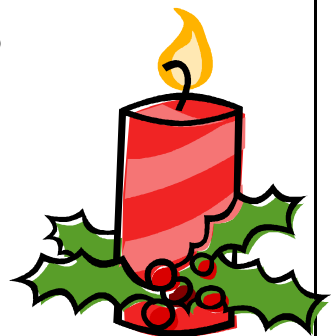
Emissions Testing for Commuter Vehicles

While Kirtland AFB and the City of Albuquerque are clearly paving the way for reduced emissions from diesel vehicles and equipment, it is important that we all do our share to service and repair our personal vehicles to protect our precious air quality. Please remember that, effective January 1, 2004, all motor vehicles, which are more than four years old and are driven into, operated, or are otherwise present in Bernalillo county for 60 or more days per year but are registered in another county or state **must be emissions tested**.

Happy Holidays!

We at the City of Albuquerque Air Quality Division wish all of you a joyous holiday season. As we all hustle about, preparing for the festivities to come, it's easy to get caught up in the moment and forget what's really important. Take time to celebrate with your friends and family. It's not the gifts you get but the gifts you give that make the best memories.

And when the celebrations are finally over, someone has to clean up the mess. It is estimated that between Thanksgiving and the New Year an extra million tons of waste are generated nationwide *each week*. In fact, 38,000 miles of ribbon alone is thrown out each year--enough to tie a bow around the Earth!



Here are some tips to help you minimize the waste that the holidays bring.

- Look for gifts that are unpackaged or minimally packaged, without unnecessary plastic wrap or cardboard backing.
- Evaluate the gift for simplicity and durability.
- Buy durable gifts with long-term warranties.
- Know the store's return policy and include tags or receipts for easier exchange or return.
- Consider the impact of your gift: Is it environmentally friendly and safe for children? Will it be reusable? Is it recyclable or made from recycled materials?
- Purchase holiday cards made from recycled paper or make your own from items found around the home.
- Help someone recycle – give a can crusher, a set of recycling bins or a recycling cart.

Draw names or share the cost of a gift with a sibling or friend.

- Give an experience (for example, a ride in a hot air balloon or day trip on a train).
- Make a giant edible cookie holiday card; put on a personal greeting with icing.
- Give a garden! Seeds, gloves, tools, etc.
- Create a family recipe book.
- Give yourself or your children time to simply enjoy the season.



What To Do With Candle "Stubs"

- 1) Melt old colored candle stubs, dip pine cones in hot wax and place on a piece of wax paper.
- 2) Fill muffin tins half full with hot wax, place a wick on the side of the tin and dip wax-coated pine cones into each tin. The wick will be anchored in the wax and attached securely to the pine cone.
- 3) Cool in freezer five to 10 minutes.
- 4) Turn upside down and cones should fall out.
- 5) To use, just place under wood and light.



December

TRIP CHAIN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



When you start an engine after it has been sitting for more than an hour, it emits about five times more air pollution than when the engine is warm.

By trip-chaining or combining your errands into one trip you

- ❖ Save time,
- ❖ Reduce air pollution,
- ❖ Reduce traffic congestion, and
- ❖ Save gas and money!

Let's Breathe Easy This
Holiday Season!

City of Albuquerque
Environmental Health Department
Air Quality Division



Alfredo S. Santibana
Director

It all adds up to cleaner air

Notice to persons with disabilities: If you have a disability and require special assistance, please call (505) 768-2600 (voice). TTY users please call the New Mexico Relay at 1-800-659-8331.



MAIL TO:

We'd Like To Hear From You With Comments On This Newsletter!
Please Call The Education, Outreach & Technical Assistance Section At 768-1941.